

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all previous listings and versions of the claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-20. Canceled.

21. (Currently Amended) A process for photodamaging bacteria in a bacterial locale, said process comprising:

(a) energizing a laser to cause the selective emission of first radiation in a first wavelength range of the near infrared spectrum and the selective emission of second radiation at a second wavelength range of the near infrared spectrum, the first radiation and second radiation having different near infrared frequencies;

(b) establishing a path for the transmission of said first radiation and said second radiation from said laser oscillator sub-system; and

(c) enabling delivery of said first radiation from said laser oscillator sub-system through said optical channel to the site of said bacterial locale thereby selectively photodamaging bacteria without significant heat deposition to tissues in said bacterial locale;

wherein said first radiation and said second radiation target a bacterial intracellular chromophore at said bacterial locale and generate radical oxygen species to photodamage bacteria in said bacterial locale.

22. (Currently Amended) A process for photodamaging bacteria in a bacterial locale, said process comprising:

(a) energizing a laser to cause the selective emission of first radiation in a first wavelength range of about 865-875 nm and the selective emission of second radiation at a second wavelength range of about 925-935 nm;

(b) establishing a path for the transmission of said first radiation and said

second radiation from said laser oscillator sub-system; and

(c) enabling delivery of said first radiation and said second radiation from said laser oscillator sub-system through said optical channel to the site of said bacterial locale thereby selectively photodamaging bacteria without significant heat deposition to tissues in said bacterial locale;

wherein said first radiation and said second radiation target a bacterial intracellular chromophore at said bacterial locale and generate radical oxygen species to photodamage bacteria in said bacterial locale.

23. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 21, wherein the first radiation has a wavelength ranging from about 865 to about 875 nm.

24. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 21, wherein the second radiation has a wavelength ranging from about 925 to about 935 nm.

25. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 22, wherein the first radiation has a wavelength of about 870 nm and the second radiation has a wavelength of about 930 nm.

26-31. (Canceled)